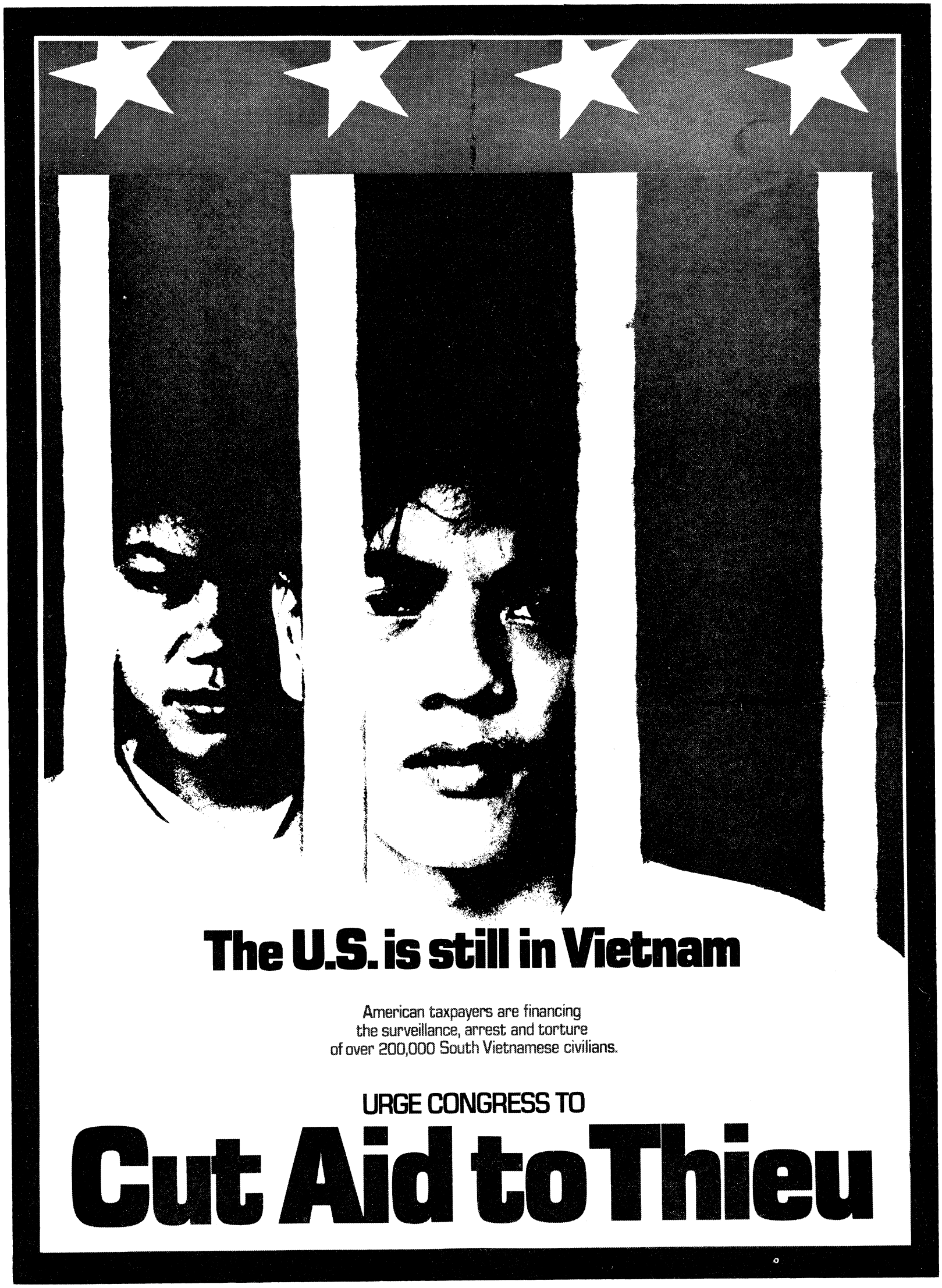

LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

#616 June 1, 1974

To all LNS subscribers--

We're trying out a new way of arranging the table of contents. Instead of listing stories in numerical order, we're putting them under the broad categories of NATIONAL and INTERNATIONAL news to help you spot the stories you need quicker and easier. We're also putting an asterisk by each short story--approximately 250 words or less.

We'd really appreciate feedback from you all as to whether this idea is useful, and if you have any alternative ways of doing it. Also, please try to get some money together to send us in June. We're desperate.

PACKET #616
June 1, 1974

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Comrades: Ron Alden, Laura Levande, Safra Epstein, Don Smith

Correspondents: Schofield Coryell--Paris

GRAPHICS

COVER: CUT AID TO THIEU poster put out by the Indochina Peace Campaign. The original is in red, white and blue, and is available at a cost of 25¢ (cheap) for one, or 20 for $2.00. The original size is 14" X 21". To order, write the IPC at 181 Pier Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90405.

MAY BE RUN WITH THE STORY ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: Public Interest Communications/ Indochina Peace Campaign/LNS

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June 1, 1974

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IF YOU ARE MISSING A PAGE OR GET A BADLY PRINTED GRAPHIC, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL SEND YOU ANOTHER ONE SOON

[See graphics for poster to go with the following article.]

U.S. MILITARY AID TO SAIGON:
MYTHS AND REALITIES

LIBERATION News Service

(Editor's note: U.S. aid to South Vietnam will be a subject of hot debate in Congress in the next few weeks, and NARMIC--National Action Research on the Military Industrial Complex--has been active in helping to explain some of the issues involved. The following is a series of basic questions and answers designed to get at the heart of the military aid question. It has been excerpted from a longer series prepared by NARMIC in leaflet form. For copies of the leaflet, write to the Indochina Program, AFSC, 112 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. You can get 10 for 50 cents; 100 for $3.

Be reminded that these questions deal only with military aid. NARMIC plans to do a similar project on economic aid to the Thieu regime at a later date.)

IS U.S. MILITARY AID TO SAIGON IMPROVING THE CHANCES FOR A REAL SETTLEMENT IN VIETNAM, OR IS IT MERELY PERPETUATING THE CONFLICT?

U.S. military aid supplies the arms, ammunition and planes for General Thieu to continue fighting the post-ceasefire war, instead of competing on the political level for popular support as called for by the Peace Agreement. According to U.S. officials in Saigon, Thieu has never accepted the Peace Agreement in good faith and was only forced to sign it under strong U.S. pressure.

Just before the ceasefire, reported Le Monde in late January of 1973, Thieu told a gathering of Saigon police officers to kill communists who enter Saigon zones. He warned that "if we let things go, the population may vote for the communists who know how to make propaganda."

Even after the ceasefire, the U.S. Defense Attache Office in Saigon admitted that Saigon forces continue to initiate major military operations against Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) areas. U.S. officials in Vietnam concede that "Saigon troops have launched the bulk of the post-ceasefire fighting." On January 4, 1974, Thieu announced that his army was on the offensive. Several days later Saigon military spokesmen reported that Saigon warplanes had begun to systematically bomb PRG areas in order to blunt an alleged PRG military buildup.

HOW CAN WE STOP GIVING MILITARY AID TO THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT WHEN RUSSIA AND CHINA ARE STILL HELPING NORTH VIETNAM AND THE PRG?

There is no comparison between the United States, Russian and Chinese war expenditures in Vietnam. Even when the Russian and Chinese military aid to North Vietnam and the PRG was at its peak, in 1967, U.S. intelligence sources estimated that it came to $650 million. U.S. war costs for that year were over $38 billion or 58 times more than what the other side spent. Since then, Russian and Chinese arms aid have dropped sharply. According to the New York Times, foreign aid to North Vietnam and the PRG is about one tenth of the aid Saigon gets.

Thieu's armed forces far outnumber the other side's. North Vietnamese and PRG combat strength is put at around 185,000. By contrast, Saigon has over 1.1 million men in the regular armed forces and over 3 million in the paramilitary army, the Popular Self-Defense Forces. Saigon not only has one of the largest standing armies in the world, but also the fourth largest air force.

According to a Government Accounting Office report and the Pentagon, the United States has turned over to Saigon $6 billion in military equipment and ammunition which is much more than what Saigon needs for defense purposes. Any additional military aid will only encourage Saigon to initiate offensive operations against the PRG.

ISN'T OUR MILITARY AID SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM?

Since the war began, indiscriminate bombing and shelling of the countryside and the pacification program have forced over 10 million South Vietnamese to leave their ancestral homes. Pentagon statistics show that the United States and Saigon side has unleashed a total of over 13 million tons of firepower--nearly a ton for every South Vietnamese--on a country no larger than an average American state.

Continued U.S. military aid enables Saigon to continue bombing and shelling the countryside. New refugees from the post-ceasefire fighting number 818,000, says the U.S Senate Subcommittee on Refugees. It is absurd to think that the South Vietnamese people can benefit from these military activities.

Moreover, the question assumes that the Thieu government is the sole legitimate government in South Vietnam. The Peace Agreement contradicts this view, for it grants equal status and legitimacy to the PRG, and recognizes the existence of a large body of South Vietnamese who belong to neither administration--The Third Component.

If the Thieu government is truly representative why does it continue to deny the South Vietnamese people democratic freedoms guaranteed in the Peace Agreement and keep incarcerated thousands of political prisoners?

IF WE STOP MILITARY AID TO SAIGON, WON'T WE BE FORCING THE THIEU GOVERNMENT TO NEGLECT ITS SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND DIVERT MORE OF ITS OWN RESOURCES TO THE MILITARY SECTOR?

Only 7% of the Saigon government budget is devoted to health, education and social welfare. United States aid for health and education in Vietnam has actually gone down to less than 2% of the total budget.

UNDER THE PEACE AGREEMENT, DON'T WE HAVE A COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE A ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENT OF USED-UP

OR WORN-OUT AMMUNITION AND WAR EQUIPMENT?

The Peace Agreement permits one-for-one replacement but does not require it. The Peace Agreement does require that democratic freedoms be guaranteed and that a National Council for Reconciliation and Concord be formed to organize national elections--provisions that the Thieu government has time and time again rejected.

The proviso for one-to-one replacement must be understood within the context of the whole agreement and not isolated from it. The U.S. has exceeded this restriction by sending 128 F-5E fighter jets costing $202 million and 4 new types of warships to Saigon.

IF WE STOP OUR MILITARY AID PROGRAM, WON'T WE SIMPLY BE TURNING SOUTH VIETNAM OVER TO THE COMMUNISTS? AND WON'T THIS BRING ABOUT A BLOODBATH LIKE THE NORTH VIETNAMESE LAND REFORM KILLINGS IN 1956 AND THE HUE MASSACRES IN 1968?

The Peace Agreement forbids all acts of reprisal against those who have collaborated with one side or the other (Article 11.) It also established a political framework for the South Vietnamese people to decide their future, so that a "communist takeover" can only come about if it is the wish of the South Vietnamese People. To ensure a real self-determination, all parties must seriously implement all the peace agreement's provisions. It has been the standard response to counter criticism of U.S./Saigon initiated violence with countercharges of communist bloodbaths and massacres.

According to Colonel Nguyen Van Chau, a Vietnamese Catholic who was head of Saigon's Psychological Warfare Department under the Diem regime, the "bloodbath" figures for the North Vietnamese land reform were "100% fabricated" by the intelligence services of Saigon, with assistance from U.S. and British intelligence agencies. Documents were forged as part of a campaign to vilify communism in order to justify Diem's refusal to negotiate with Hanoi to prepare for unifying elections in 1956 as called for in the 1954 Geneva Accords.

The "Hue massacres" were supposed to have taken place when National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese forces took over the old imperial capital during the 1968 Tet Offensive. At that time the Hue Police Chief announced that the communist forces had killed around 200 people. Most of the victims were Saigon government spies, policemen or Phoenix agents (Operation Phoenix is a CIA-created program to "neutralize" political organizers of the National Liberation Front through assassination or imprisonment).

More people died in the United States/Saigon effort to recapture Hue. According to Townsend Hoppes, a former high official in the Pentagon, 80% of the buildings in Hue were bombed and " in smashed ruins lay 2,000 dead civilians."

* * *

Many anti-war groups are currently calling on people to begin putting pressure(letters, telegrams, visits) on their congresspeople to vote down military and economic aid to the Thieu regime in the coming year. These groups feel that, given the current mood of Congress, much can be accomplished in that area, but only with a good deal of work. Contact you local American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) or Indochina Peace Campaign (IPC) chapter to see what you can do to help.

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[See packet 615 for the last Wounded Knee story.]

3 WOUNDED KNEE DEFENDANTS ACQUITTED IN SIOUX FALLS

SIOUX FALLS, S.D.(LNS)--Tonia Ackerman, Lorelei DeCora Means and Madonna Gilbert were acquitted May 28 on charges of burglary and larceny in connection with alleged looting of the Wounded Knee Trading Post on February 27, 1973. This is the third Wounded Knee trial held in Sioux Falls. It is also the third trial in which charges against the defendants have been dismissed.

When the prosecution rested its case, the defense made a routine motion for acquittal on the grounds that the governmnet had not proved its case. The three women were discovered in a car with goods taken from the trading post on the same day. Judge Warren Urbom ruled that no demonstrative evidence connected the women with the burglary and larceny.

The government had argued that the charges were based on circumstantial evidence--the possesion of recently stolen goods which "common sense" would connect with the crimes charged.

However, Judge Urbom said "I rely entirely on the evidence before me."

The ruling on the routine motion was unexpected. "I personally was amazed, Ithink everyone was surprised," said one woman at the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee in Sioux Falls.

In the first of the Sioux Falls cases, the government dropped charges against four people charged with burglary and larceny of the trading post. The government asked for dismissal on February 11, apparently because it had no evidence.

In the second case, Urbom granted a defense motion to supress evidence against Marianne DeCora (Lorelei's sister) and Vaughn Dix Baker. The government's evidence was obtained in an illegal search. The judge then refused to grant the prosecution an appeal and the charges were dropped.

Hearing of her acquittal, Madonna Gilbert, said "Isn't that something! I'm only sorry he didn't rule on the illegality of the trading post operations. But he is a judge. Imagine--now the score's Indians 9, government 0."

* * *

The Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee needs money badly. Legal expenses now run about $1000 a day, and about 120 more defendants remain to be tried. You can send money to the Committee at P.O. Box 255, Sioux Falls,So. Dakota 57101; or at 333 Sibley St., Suite 605, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

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EX-MARINE REVEALS MILITARY DESTROYED OVER A MILLION GALLONS OF JET FUEL

DETROIT (LNS)--In its routine operations, the U.S. military establishment is a prime guzzler of the world's fuel resources. But, according to a new report, that's not all. In a recent article in Detroit's alternative paper, the Fifth Estate, ex-Marine Daniel Tucker revealed that while stationed in Southeast Asia, he was mysteriously ordered to destroy thousands of gallons of jet fuel a day.

"I was stationed at a Marine base called Nam Phong in Thailand from May of 1973 to August of the same year as a refueler," Tucker explained. "I used to read about the energy shortage in the U.S. and thought it was very funny that I was burning over 30,000 gallons of jet fuel a day for the three months I was stationed there.

"Every day at the direct orders of my superior officers, I had to burn this fuel [jet fuel is more refined than gasoline] in a pit where all the camp's garbage was eliminated. The flames were so high you could see them from all over the base....According to the logbook I had to keep the records in, such a procedure was in effect for 9 months before I came."

According to Tucker, who was only recently released from active duty, his immediate superior, Lt. Colonel J.C. Byram claimed the fuel was contaminated, but ordered him to keep quiet about the disposal.

"Hell, that fuel wasn't contaminated," Tucker maintained. "It came out of the batch that I used to refuel the aircraft on the base. I filtered it through the same 50 filters on my truck that all the other gas was run through."

However, Tucker was doubtful that he could legally prove his charges. "The whole operation was set up so no one could get busted. We were in the middle of nowhere and the base was completely moved out--Nam Phong no longer existed after 18 months. If any of the enlisted men started any trouble about it, the officers would have them 'fixed' in some way. The common thing was to get someone to start a fight with the 'troublemaker,' and then the officer would have him arrested."

Evidently, the jet fuel, which Tucker said was supplied by Shell Oil Company, was easy to dispose of and lose in the complex records system the military uses in its overseas combat operations. A conservative estimate of 18 months of such fuel disposal, Tucker elaborated, would indicate perhaps 1.5 million gallons of jet fuel were destroyed at Nam Phong alone. Without testimony of top military personnel it would be very difficult to determine how many "Nam Phongs" have existed or still operate.

While it is not clear exactly who in the military benefited from the fuel burning, one things for sure--Shell Oil sold a lot more fuel.

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HOT NEWS???? COLD NEWS???? ANY NEWS??????

GET IN TOUCH

TELL US WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA. WRITE OR PHONE. LNS, 160 Claremont Ave., NY, NY 10027: (212) 749-2200

VVAW/WSO GAINESVILLE 8 SUE JUSTICE DEPT. PROSECUTORS FOR PERJURY DURING TRIAL

WASHINGTON (LNS)--The "Gainesville 8" defendants, found innocent of conspiracy to violently disrupt the 1972 Republican National Convention, filed suit May 28 in Federal District Court against government prosecutor Guy Goodwin of the Justice Department's Internal Security Division, two United States attorneys and an FBI agent.

Goodwin, known for his running of political grand juries such as those that indicted the Harrisburg 8, the Camden 28, and the Gainesville 8, is charged with having committed perjury when he testified that none of the people subpeonaed by the Grand Jury were informers. During the trial, however, the prosecution called a paid FBI informer and member of VVAW/WSO, who was represented by defense lawyers, to the witness stand to testify for the prosecution.

The suit charges that Goodwin lied about the existence of the informer so as to insure the flow of "inside" information regarding defense strategy right up to the time of the trial.

This information proved to be of no real help to the prosecutor for after less than four hours--including lunch--the juries found all of the VVAW/WSO defendants not guilty on all charges.

As one juror put it, "What was there to deliberate? They never showed us any evidence. We could have come back in 10 minutes."

The suit asks for a total of $1.5 million in compensatory and punitive damages, that the eight veterans be reimbursed for legal expenses, and that a special prosecutor be appointed to investigate Goodwin and the other defendants for any violations in the Gainesville case.

According to a spokesman for the Center for Constitutional Rights, which is handling the case, "We must begin to hold the government criminally as well as financially responsible when it employs such tactics as were evident in this trial and other political trials."

* * *

For more information contact: Center for Constitutional Rights, 853 Broadway, New York, New York 10003; or phone (212) 674-3303.

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FORD HAS A BETTER IDEA???

"Dan Mitrione was just doing his job helping the Uruguayan police to be more effective....This tragedy raises questions as to whether the U.S. should be engaged in this activity. I submit that it proves instead how important it is for us to persevere in this essential task."

--Gerald Ford, 1970, commenting on the execution of a USAID employee kidnapped by Tupamaros for his role in teaching Uruguayan police torture techniques. It is a State Dept. policy to sacrifice hostages in such cases.

(See graphics section for an accompanying photo.)

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS JOIN GENERAL STRIKE IN ITALY TO PROTEST FASCIST BOMBING THAT KILLED 6 PEOPLE

LIBERATION News Service

MILAN, Italy (LNS)--Hundreds of thousands of people throughout Italy participated in a four hour general strike May 29 in the wake of a bombing at an anti-fascist rally in the northern city of Brescia the day before. Six people were killed and 94 injured in the bombing, the work of extreme rightists, a small but active political minority in Italy.

The general strike, called by Italy's three major labor unions to demonstrate "indignation and grief" over the attack, involved every sector of the work force except for a few emergency services. The state radio and television network shut down for four hours, along with stores, civil and government offices and all public transportation.

Schools and universities, courtrooms, all entertainment places and the Milian Stock Exchange were closed all day.

Simultaneous with the strike, Italians also held anti-fascist rallies throughout the country. Two hundred thousand people marched in Millan and more than 100,000 in Turin and Rome. Smaller cities reported figures ranging from 10,000 to over 50,000.

In Milan, demonstrators hurled gasoline bombs at the office of Spain's Iberia Air Lines and one group destroyed a bar frequented by right-wing sympathizers. In several cities, police used tear gas to disperse the angry demonstrators who tried to attack local offices of the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement. Giorgio Almirante, leader of the party, disclaimed any involvement in the explosion.

The bomb, hidden in a plastic garbage bag, had been placed in a doorway where dozens of demonstrators had taken shelter from rain during the rally. Some 3,000 workers and students attended the rally as part of a half-day strike called by a local anti-fascist committee to protest recent fascist violence in the city. Giorgio Motto, a factory worker, was standing near the doorway when the bomb exploded.

"I weigh 264 pounds, but the blast knocked me to the ground like a twig. I heard screams all around me. It was an awful sight. People ran and screamed. There was blood, a loot of blood, all around--even on the demonstrators' red flags."

Immediately after the blast, police circled the city with roadblocks in a search for four or five young neo-fascists.

For the past several months Italian officials have been investigating extreme right-wing activity in the country, particularly in the north. In January, several high army offciers were mentioned in an investigation of a secret neo-fascist network conspiring to overthrow the government. The conspirators were said to have been backed by wealthy industrialists and businessmen, and there were reports that huge secret funds were at the groups' disposal, mostly in Swiss banks.

In April of 1972 evidence came to light that the Greek military junta had helped finance and train an underground fascist network operating inside Italy.

Right-wing bombings are not new to Italy. In December, 1969, 17 people were killed and 70 injured by a bomb set in a crowded Milan bank. An anarchist was immediately blamed for the bombing and spent over three years in prison before an independent inquiry revealed that neo-fascists were actually responsible for the blast. This was not the first time that anarchists had been blamed for such fascist actions.

No doubte Italian fascists have been disturbed by recent events in their country. In mid-May Italian voters reaffirmed by a 3-2 margin a law permitting divorce passed three years ago by Parliment. The vote was interpreted as a victory for the left in Italy and a stinging defeat for the alliance of Catholic Church and rightist forces which had launched an all-out red-baiting campaign to repeal the divorce law.

Since 1972, the Christian Democrats, Italy's largest party, have dominated the center-left coalition which governs the country. However, in the recent divorce vote the Christian Democtats cast their lot with the fascists. Their defeat indicates a definite leftward leaning among Italians which is sure to have repercussions within the government and is certainly cause for worry--and bombings--among neo-fascists.

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700 ITALIAN FAMILIES OCCUPY LUXURY HOUSING PROJECT IN MILAN

MILAN, Italy (LNS)--Since the beginning of April hundreds of families have occupied a spanking new luxury housing complex in the working-class district of Gallaratese, in Milan. So far, 700 families are participating in the occupation.

The luxury project was built by a private construction firm backed with capital from the Vatican. The site was originally designated, by the city council, for the construction of low-rent apartments for workers in the heavily industrialized city.

The Gallaratese occupation, one of the largest in years in Italy, is especially important because, for the first time, workers are confronting the city administration and major financial interests with the critical housing shortage. Up until now, most Italian "squatters" struggles, like thoseiin Rome and Naples for example, were organized by unemployed people and "beggars" who have been living in shanty towns on the edge of the cities.

In Milan, many of the squatters are workers from the Alfa Romeo, Pirelli, Siemens, Alemagna Motta and Innocenti factories--some of Milan's largest. Also, many are migrant workers from North Africa and some of Italy's own impoverished south.

The families at Gallaratese have formed an occupation committee which includes the families and representatives of left groups and autonomous workers groups. So far the committee has helped organize a day care center, a free clinic and a communal eating place as well as discussing how to deal with police assaults and beatings. --30--

(Thanks to People's News Service for this short.)

from: NARMIC, c/o American Friends Service Committee, 112 South 16th St., Phila., Pa. 19102.

Vietnam's post ceasefire situation is thoroughly examined in a new film strip being made available to teachers, librarians, clergy, and concerned citizens.

"The Post-War War" filmstrip tells the story of continued war and repression through photos and first-hand cassette narration by American Friends Service Committee staff who have recently returned from Vietnam.

The filmstrip, based on more than a year of research, was produced by NARMIC (National Action/Research on the Military-Industrial Complex), an AFSC project.

It includes first-hand observations by AFSC staff at the Quaker medical center in Quang Ngai, South Vietnam, and an account of life in areas controlled by the Provisional Revolutionary Government as witnessed by Diane Jones, an AFSC staff person who, in January, was captured and held for twelve days by the PRG.

"The Post-War War" filmstrip is a shortened and updated version of a slide show by the same title produced last fall. The filmstrip, slide show, documentary report, and other resources can be obtained by writing to the above address.

* * *

from: Inforwomen, P.O. Box 1727, Chicago, Ill. 60690.

Inforwomen, a five member non-profit collective has just published the CHICAGO WOMEN'S DIRECTORY, a 225 page, comprehensive survival guide to the city written especially for women.

Spanish-speaking women's groups, free health clinics, food pantries, women's music, women's employment agencies, legal projects, child care services and political action groups for older women are just some of the subjects listed and described under the major headings of Law, Health, Schools and Employment, Children, Media and Arts, Survival, and Women.

Provocative assessments of injustice, discrimination, and need have been included in each section in the form of essays written by women with particular expertise in the area of concern.

All of the essays have been translated into Spanish in keeping with Inforwomen's intent to reach as wide an audience as possible. Art work and photography by Chicago women illustrate each section. All listings were verified during the two weeks prior to printing.

Distribution of the Directory will be through community houses, neighborhood organizations and women's groups as well as bookstores. A percentage of the books will be given away in prisons and law and health clinics. The price is $2.00, mail order $2.25. Bulk rates available. Write to the above address.

from: Human Resources Network, 2010 Chancellor St., Phila., Pa. 19103.

We're writing a series of inexpensive but extensive books on funding for social projects, scholarships and personal aid. We've written 8,000 funders for info -- must now locate smaller but strategic sources of money. Send names of any in your community. Any ideas! Write to above address.

* * *

from: Gay Sunshine, Box 40397, San Francisco, Calif. 94140.

A special joint issue of San Francisco's gay liberation paper Gay Sunshine and Boston's Fag Rag has just been published. Issued in commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Stonewall riots of 1969 which sparked off the present gay liberation movement, the 50 page issue contains political articles, interviews, poetry, graphics, photos, book reviews. Gay Sunshine and Fag Rag represent half of the radical gay press in the United States. The special issue can be obtained for $1.25 from the above address.

* * *

from: The World Speakers Bureau, c/o Communications Office of the Feminist Women's Health Centers, 746 S. Crenshaw, Los Angeles, Calif. 90005.

Active feminists -- midwives, folksingers, nurses, teachers, students, housewives -- from Australia, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, and New Zealand are willing to share information about what is happening in their communities. Since most are not experienced speakers, they would prefer talking to small groups in informal rap sessions. While visiting your area they will expect to stay in your home rather than in a hotel. If you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement as part of a tour, please write for further information concerning scheduling, costs, and other particulars. Women's groups will be given preference.

* * *

from: New World Communications, P.O. Box E, MIT Branch P.O., Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

New World Communications, a non-profit project, consists entirely of paid messages and is distributed free bi-monthly to more than four thousand countercultural/new lifestyle organizations: communes, free schools, counselling and crisis centers, rights groups, periodicals, environmentalists, cooperatives, businesses.

You can reach this world of people with a message in New World Communications for $1 plus 4¢ per word (name and address free).

If you are a countercultural organization or a community of 5 or more adults living together and are located in the Americas, please ask to be added to our mailing list free. Individuals and those outside the New World please send $2.

END RMBB

more...

(see graphics)

PLANNED PARENTHOOD BANS DALKON SHIELD;
IUD CAUSES SEVERE INFECTIONS, SOMETIMES FATAL

NEW YORK (LNS)--The national medical committee of Planned Parenthood directed all of its 700 affiliated birth control clinics to stop prescribing an intrauterine device (IUD) known as the Dalkon Shield. Planned Parenthood also directed its clinics to call in all women who are currently using the IUD to warn them of potential risk to their health if they become pregnant, and offer them a substitute contraceptive.

The action follows the disclosure by the manufacturer of the contraceptive device, A.H. Robins Company of Richmond, Virginia, that four women have died from septic abortions in mid-pregnancy when the Dalkon Shield was in place. A septic abortion is a miscarriage caused by an infection in the uterus. An added 32 women had also suffered from septic abortions that were not fatal.

With a pregnancy rate of 5.1%, as reported in one Planned Parenthood Study, 30,000 to 80,000 pregnancies occur every year for each 1 million users. According to the company, 2.2 million women have been fitted with Dalkon Shields.

The disclosure was made in a letter sent by the company to 120,000 doctors. Although the letter is dated May 8, a number of doctors in New York did not receive it until the end of May.

Planned Parenthood, whose clinics serve 850,000 women--10% of whom use intrauterine devices--failed to receive a copy of the letter.

The company warned that women who become pregnant while wearing the Dalkon Shield would be well advised to either have the device removed promptly if the pregnancy is to continue or to have an abortion. It also recommended that doctors perform a pregnancy test on every Shield-wearer who misses a menstrual period.

As required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the company turned its data over to the FDA which is already reviewing the findings of other studies on the safety of all types of IUDs.

"We are trying to determine if this problem is peculiar to the Dalkon Shield or all IUDs," said an FDA spokesperson.

The National Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, a division of the United States Public Health Service, is currently winding up a nationwide study of serious complications associated with all types of IUDs.

The study is known to have uncovered several deaths associated with particular serious effects. Written results on the report are to be given to the American Medical Association in early June for approval.

The FDA is unable to act against any medical device until and unless it has clearcut evidence of a hazard to health that in the judgement of the agency's medical advisors outweighs the benefits of the device. Last year the FDA recalled an IUD called the Majzlin Spring after it was established to have a number of adverse side effects. One such side effect was that the Majzlin Spring tended to become embedded in the walls of the uterus thus necessitating surgical removal.

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FIVE OF THE SAN QUENTIN SIX DENIED PAROLE

SAN FRANCISCO (LNS)--Despite the fact that murder and conspiracy charges against the San Quentin 6 have been dropped and most of them have served far beyond the customary period of time necessary for parole on their original offenses, five of the six were denied parole in late April. The five were Fleeta Drumgo, David Johnson, Johnny Larry Spain, Luis Talamantex and Willie Tate. Hugo Pinnell was not up for parole.

The San Quentin 6 are six black and brown prison activists indicted in connection with the events of August 21, 1971 that left George Jackson and five others dead. The indictments were quashed in January, 1974 when the Grand Jury that had issued the indictments was found to be unrepresentative.

David Johnson, who appeared before the parole board on Friday, April 19, stated that "Their concern, they said, was about all the reports that were submitted by guards who stated that I was a threat to their lives."

Attorneys are not permitted at Parole Board hearings and no appeal is permitted on decisions reached.

All of the six are in the Adjustment Center--a euphemistic term for a maximum security building in the maximum security prison which prisoners refer to as "the hole." Pre-trial hearings are currently being conducted in Federal District Court in San Francisco on a civil suit brought by the six against the Department of Corrections for the cruel and unusual punishment that is inflicted on them in the Adjustment Center.

In addition to the brutality and harassment of the guards, prisoners in the Adjustment Center must live in cells approximately 6 feet by 9 feet, with concrete floors and walls, and solid steel or barred doors. The filthy cells are infested with cockroaches and bedbugs.

Locked alone in their cells for 23 to 24 hours a day, prisoners are allowed no recreational, educational or vocational programs.

* * *

The decision quashing the murder and conspiracy indictments against the San Quentin 6 is being appealed in the California appellate courts. The San Quentin 6 Defense Committee is fighting this appeal. For more information write to the defense committee at 3169-16th Street, San Francisco, California 94103 or call (415) 626-0690.

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"Hunger is relative -- if your larder is empty, you cut back some."

--U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz on the possibility of a world-wide famine.

[See graphics section for photo to accompany this story.]

5,000 MARCH IN WASHINGTON ON AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY

WASHINGTON,(LNS)-- Five thousand Black people from around the country marched in Washington on May 25 to celebrate the third annual African Liberation Day.

The demonstrators, chanting "Imperialism No, Racism No, Richard Nixon Must Go," to the beat of the bongos, marched on a five-mile route that took them from Malcolm X Park to the White House and back to the park for a rally.

Colorful banners demanded: Recognize Guinea-Bisseau; Angola Must Be Free; Support Mozambique Freedom Fighters; Boycott Gulf; Stop Police Brutality; Nixon Gets Paid Off--Workers Get Laid Off; Black People Must Be Free; Dump the Chump; and more.

Sponsored by the African Liberation Support Commitee (ALCS) the march and rally was the culmination of African Liberation Month. One of the focal points of the month's activities was local actions held on the Weekend of Malcolm X's birthday, May 19. Such actions were held in 32 cities and ranged in size from 300 in one city to 3,000 in San Antonio, Texas.

Speaking at the rally in Malcolm X Park, Owusu Sakaukai, former ALSC head, said, "We are trying to address those issues that not only affect Africa but our people in the U.S. as well. Our struggle and the struggle of the African people are as one. The struggle is against imperialism, which oppresses us everywhere."

Immau Baraka, chairman of the Congress of African People, added, "The civil rights movement put an end to South African-style repression in the U.S. But the class differences still exist."

William Lucy,head of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) spoke briefly pledging support of the CBTU in the fight for human rights for Black people all over the world.

Another African Liberation Month event was a May 23-24 conference held at Howard University in Washington. Attended by over 700 people, many of them leaders of various radical Black organizations, the conference was organized to help resolve a struggle over the direction the Black liberation movement should take in the future.

The position which won the majority of the conference members' support, was that racism is used as a tool to divide people, causing them to fight each other instead of their real enemies--capitalism and imperialism.

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[Thanks to the Guardian and the Militant for some of the information in this story.]

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BILLY GRAHAM JUMPS NIXON SHIP, HOPS ON FORD DINGHY

WASHINGTON(LNS)-- The Rev. Billy Graham made his move last week when he declared Nixon, as revealed in the transcripts, to be a "disappointment." He then went to play golf with V.P. Gerald Ford. --30--

CANADIAN ALTERNATIVE PAPER STAFFERS CHARGED WITH "COUNSELLING THEFT" IN SHOPLIFTING AD

EDMONTON,Canada(LNS)-- Five members of the staff of Poundmaker, an alternative bi-weekly in Edmonton, Alberta have been charged with counselling theft through the pages of their paper.

The charge stems from a parody Poundmaker ran of anti-shoplifting ads which have appeared in other Edmonton papers. The Poundmaker used the large picture of open handcuffs and headline--"One size fits all"-- of the official ads.

However, while the official ad emphasized that shoplifting was "no joke" and predicted ruined lives for those caught in the act, the Poundmaker ad emphasized the role of major retail chains in driving up prices. And, below the copy, instead of the official ad's "Shoplifting is Stealing," Poundmaker wrote "Property is Theft."

"It's no joke when some gigantic retail chain is making millions of dollars a year off of other people's labor," stated the parody. "...Anyone who openly profiteers is considered both responsible and intelligent. So what? Ask the working person who has received maybe a 5% raise in a year that has seen inflation and profits jump by at least 10%. And then they turn around and tell you that shoplifting is stealing."

The offending portion of the ad, however, was apparently one line that read: "Shoplift--it's cheap, convenient and just." The charges came as a result of a formal letter of complaint filed by Ralph Watzke, a third year law student at the University of Alberta and founder of a right-wing organization called the Anti-Bolshevik Youth League.

Under Canadian law, inciting someone to commit a crime carries the same penalty as committing the crime itself.

The summonses, issued to the five collective members listed as officers of the corporation, and to the paper itself, charge that the defendants "did unlawfully counsel another person, to wit: Ralph Watzke to commit an indictable offense that was not committed, to wit: to commit theft."

Edmonton's government prosecutor has taken up the case against them. The preliminary hearing will begin August 21. --30--

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SPEAKERS ON VIETNAM AVAILABLE FROM AFSC

NEW YORK(LNS)-- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), a Quaker organization involved in war relief in Vietnam, can provide speakers who have lived, worked, and traveled in Vietnam. Three of the speakers have served as AFSC representatives in Saigon; eleven others as members of the team at the Rehabilitation Center in Quang Ngai. The Center provides medical services for thousands of war-injured civilians and those confined to the prison ward of Quang Ngai Province Hospital. Each speaker can report and show slides on the impact of U.S. military aid to Saigon as well as on political prisoners in Saigon's jails. Contact: American Friends Service Committee, 112 S. 16th St. Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

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(Editor's note: Marge Piercy was in Missoula, Montana recently to read some of her poetry. Extremely moved by Missoula women's accounts of the lack of offical response to assaults on women, and after a sleepless night, she wrote the following poem.)

MISSOULA RAPE POEM

There is no difference between being raped
and being pushed down a flight of cement steps
except that the wounds also bleed inside.

There is no difference between being raped
and being run over by a truck
except that afterward men ask if you enjoyed it.

There is no difference between being raped
and losing a hand in a mowing machine
except that doctors don't want to get involved,
the police wear a knowing smirk,
and in small towns you become a veteran whore.

There is no difference between being raped
and going head first through a windshield
except that afterward you are afraid
not of cars
but half the human race.

The rapist is your boyfriend's brother
He sits beside you in the movies eating popcorn.
Rape fattens on the fantasies of the normal male
Like a maggot in garbage.

Fear of rape is a cold wind blowing
all of the time on a woman's hunched back.
Never to stroll alone on a sand road through pinewoods,
never to climb a trail across a bald *
without that aluminum in the mouth
when I see a man climbing toward me.

Never to open the door to a knock
without that razor just grazing the throat.
The fear of the dark side of hedges,
the back seat of the car, the empty house
rattling keys like a snake's warning.
The fear of the smiling man
in whose pocket is a knife
waiting to glide its shark's length between my ribs.
The fear of the serious man
in whose fist is locked hatred.

All it takes to cast a rapist is to be able to see your
body
as jackhammer, as blowtorch, as adding-machine gun.
All it takes is hating that body
your own, your self, your muscle that softens to flab.

All it takes is to push what you hate,
what you fear onto the soft alien flesh.
To bucket out invincible as a tank
armored with treads without senses
to possess and punish in one act,
to rip up pleasure, to murder those who dare
live in the leafy flesh open to love.

-- Marge Piercy

* bald spot on a mountain.

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A Bit of History

May 31, 1779: George Washington orders General Sullivan to wipe the Iroquois from the face of the earth - "Not to be merely overrun, but destroyed."

8,000 MINERS WALK OUT IN PROTEST OF SOUTHERN CO.'S PLAN TO IMPORT COAL FROM SOUTH AFRICA

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (LNS)--Nearly all of the 8,000 miners in District 20 of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) staged a one-day walkout May 29 to protest Southern Company's plans to import coal from South Africa.

The Southern Company, a multi-billion dollar monopoly controlling several southern utility companies, recently contracted to buy 500,000 tons of South African coal in 1974 and 750,000 tons in 1975. The first shipment will soon arrive in Mobile, Alabama.

On the same day as the walkout, 3,000 people demonstrated outside Southern Company's stockholder's meeting in downtown Birmingham. Most of them were miners, but rank-and-file workers from several other unions also participated.

A few miners were able to get inside the meeting to present their demands. They reported that some stockholders were alarmed at the appearance outside of hundreds of angry miners, but were placated when Alvin Vogtle, president of the Southern Company, announced that profits for the past year climbed to $154 million.

Vogtle drew applause from stockholders when he dismissed the Coalition to Stop South African Coal as "just a bunch of outside agitators, socialists and communists."

One of the speakers at the demonstration outside, the wife of a retired Alabama coal miner, said that the union was threatened "by the purchase of coal from a country which operates a highly exploitative economic system based on enforced slave labor for the benefit of a small white minority."

She called on working people in Alabama to support the struggle of black miners in South Africa. "We are fighting for the same things, freedom, the right to a decent life and the right to control our own lives."

Enough coal can be mined in the southern U.S. to meet the Southern Company's needs. However, South African coal is competitive with the U.S. coal even after the high cost of shipping it 10,000 miles to U.S. markets. The reason is that South African blacks are forced to work in the mines for little more than $3 a day. They are denied collective bargaining and the mines they work in are among the most dangerous in the world.

The worst mining disaster in history occurred there in 1960, when over a square mile of mine roof fell in, killing 437 miners.

The Southern Company is not the only U.S. corporation planning to cash in on cheap South African coal. According to the magazine South African Scope, Consolidation Coal Co. "is negotiating to acquire a coal deposit for itself and failing this is prepared to acquire a large share in an existing South African coal company." The predominantly white UMWA has begun efforts to join with the Miners International Federation and the British Trade Union Congress, as well as U.S. church and labor groups in opposing the conditions black workers face under South Africa's white minority rule. --30--

CYCLES:
A REVIEW OF A NEW YORK WOMANSPACE THEATRE PLAY

by Karla Jay

(Editor's Note: The following is a review of a play, Cycles, created and presented by the New York Womanspace Theatre Workshop. The workshop is now preparing a performance schedule for Cycles and they are available to perform in localities up to two hours from New York or Boston. They are willing to play for women's and mixed audiences. Those interested in having Cycles performed in their area can contact the Workshop through Roberta Weintraub, 250 Hoyt Ave., Brooklyn NY 11217.

Karla Jay is co-author of Out of the Closets, an anthology of writings by and about gay people.)

Perhaps the greatest long-range achievement of the Women's Liberation Movement will be the development of a Feminist Culture--that is, art, music, literature, religion, theater and so on--that is not male defined, created, or controlled. We are already well on our way to developing that counter culture.

Women are writing books which are printed and distributed by feminist presses, creating art displayed in feminist centers, singing songs on women-produced and distributed record albums, and developing theater written, directed, and performed by women for women.

One of the best theater groups to emerge from the Women's Movement is the New York Womanspace Theater Workshop, which consists of three women--Carol Grosberg, Laura Foner and Muriel Miguel: two white women and a Native American. Together, they have created, directed and now perform a marvelous play called Cycles.

The play is about the three women, and how they got together after Carol had the idea of forming a feminist theater group. It discusses how they distrusted one another because they were coming from three different places--Carol from feminism and the theater, Laura from the Weathermen, and Muriel from theater and a Native American background.

The play reveals how they confront their own stereotypes of one another and learn how to work with each other. Finally, they become so close in their understanding of each other and in their working relationship, that the possibility of breaking apart becomes the real threat.

The thought that one might leave the group to go on to other things (the Indian movement for Muriel, politics for Laura, and lesbianism for Carol) seems to cause friction.

Woven in with this story of three women moving toward unity and learning to work together are fantasies, memories, shared topics reminiscent to me of consciousness-raising (their fathers, mothers, lovers, etc.). And like consciousness-raising, their experiences are universal and are able to move the entire audience.

The story is of the whole women's movement in miniature, for isn't our main problem that we are all coming from different directions, different experiences? And don't we work better together once we have explored, not ignored, these differences and discover what each others' lives are like?

I hope this description is enough to make you run out and see their production, but if it isn't, let me talk a little about the technology of the performance. Thses women work so well together that their teamwork should embarrass a lot of better known groups, which have worked together much longer.

And maybe I should add that since the play is largely autobiographical, you'd better see it before the members of the group do move on to other things. This is not a play another group could perform and also not the type of play that these women will want to perform indefinitely, since they are growing women, whose cycles are spreading outward and upward, not inward.

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ARGENTINE GOVT. CREATES "INDUSTRIAL POLICE FORCE" TO PROTECT FOREIGN INDUSTRIES

BUENOS AIRES (LNS)--The Argentine government announced May 28 that it is creating a special "industrial police force" to protect industries, primarily foreign-owned, that have been the targets of leftist guerillas. The decision was made immediately after Interior MInister Benito Llambi, a rightist Peronist, met with the president of Ford Motors Argentina, the wholly-owned subsidiary of the Ford Moter Co.

Last May, Ford paid $1 million ransom in food and medical supplies to the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) after receiving threats against the lives of their executives. Last November, Ford's Detroit head office ordered 22 executives to leave Argentina after a Ford executive, John Swint, was killed in Cordoba, Argentina.

More recently, the ERP obtained a record ransom of $14 million dollars from Esso Argentina, a subsidiary of EXXON, in exchange for the release of Victor Samuelson, an Esso refinery manager.

The establishment of the "industrial police force" is another sign that Argentina is moving to the right under its president, Juan Peron. Although publicly committed to economic self-determination for Argentina, Peron has made it painfully clear in recent months that one of his prime concerns is keeping foreign investors content.

The prospect that other major corporations will follow the example of U.S. companies like Otis Elevator and Coca Cola and flee Argentina to safer havens in Brazil and Uruguay is an unhappy one for Peron. He is expected to sign the measure establishing the industrial police force within a few days.

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"We declared that we would wage war not only on all anti-suffrage forces, but on all neutral and non-active forces. Every man with a vote was considered a foe to women suffrage unless prepared actively to be a friend"--Emmaline Pankhurst, English suffragist

MORE.....

ATTICA BROTHERS LEGAL DEFENSE CHALLANGES ERIE COUNTY JURY SELECTION, CITING"DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES"

BUFFALO, New York (LNS)--On May 28th, the Attica Brothers Legal Defense began a presentation of evidence documenting "unconstitutional, illegal, and discriminatory practices" in the Erie County Jury selection System. Evidence gathered by the Fair Jury Project, a research team associated with the Attica Brothers Legal Defense, indicates that blacks, women, young people and poor people are systematically kept off juries.

Judge Gilbert King of the New York State Supreme Court is expected to hear several weeks of testimony supporting a defense motion in the Attica case to strike the Erie County jury system. Already, witnesses including clerks in the Erie County Court system, have given testimony supporting defense claims of discriminatory jury selection.

By law, the pool of names from which juries are selected should constitute a fair cross-representation of Erie County's population. The results of the Fair Jury Project's eight-month research effort has indicated, however, that blacks are underrepresented by 34%, women by 68%, and persons aged 21 to 30 by 84%. According to the Fair Jury Project, practices that have led to this situation include non-random selection of names, illegal disqualification and exemption and discriminatory mailing techniques.

Cards were found in office jury selection files with the notation "negro" on them. And according to statistical analysis, it is just about impossible that the underrepresentations that exist could have occured by chance.

According to Haywood Burns, former director of the National Conference of Black Lawyers and professor of law at the University of Buffalo Law School, speaking as legal coordinator of the Attica Brothers Legal Defense, "The present selection process in Erie County is not random, not mechanical, not objective." He added that as a result,"No person in Erie County can be expected to receive a fair jury trial."

The Attica Brothers Legal Defense represents 61 former Attica inmates who were indicted as a result of the prison rebellion there in September, 1971. The 43 indictments were handed down by an all-white Wyoming County Grand Jury that indicted no prison guards or state officials despite the fact that the independent McKay Commission concluded that "there was clearly indiscriminate firing in congested areas" by the invading force..

To date, the state has spent $6 million on the prosecution of the Attica Brothers, while the Brothers have been denied funds for their defense. For more information, or to contribute to the Attica Defense Fund, write:Attica Brothers Legal Defense, P.O. Box 7, Station G, Buffalo, N.Y.; or phone (716) 883-9382.

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YOUR JUNE BILLS WILL BE ARRIVING SOON. PLEASE PAY THEM AS PROMPTLY AND FULLY AS POSSIBLE. WE REALLY NEED MONEY NOW.

USDA APPROVES USE OF HIGH-SUGAR CUPCAKES IN FEDERAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C.(LNS)--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) formally approved the use of Astrofood and other high-sugar, "nutrient-fortified" cupcakes in the Federal School Breakfast Program recently. Approval was granted despite the overwhelming opposition of nutritionists and parents as expressed in comments filed with the department.

However,the Center for Science in the Public Interest reports that about a dozen companies and agencies endorsed the Astofood and carried the day. Edward Hekman, administrator of USDA's School Breakfast Program, for instance, gave the cupcakes the okay. Hekman used to be president of Keebler Biscuit Co., which manufactures one of the brands of cupcakes.

Opponents of the high-sugar cupcakes point to the serious health hazards that sugar poses. Besides tooth decay, which especially affects children 5-12, sugar adds bulk and empty (nutrition-free) calories, and develops an unnecessary taste for sugar in children. Sugar decreases manufacturing costs, replacing more costly and nutritious ingredients.

Unfortunately, the poor rural and inner-city children for whom the Federal School Breakfast Program was originally designed will suffer the most because of the USDA ruling. Because their parents cannot afford to buy good quality food, the program provides many of these children with their only complete daily meal. High-sugar cupcakes will only add to the large amounts of sugar they already consume.

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ARRESTED DEMONSTRATORS IN PHILADELPHIA COMPENSATED

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (LNS/CPS)--Forty-nine demonstrators will receive $32,050 from the city of Philadelphia as compensation for treatment they received from police during 1973 Presidential protests.

Suits against the city had been filed by demonstrators who charged unlawful arrest and detention by police officials.

In his decision U.S. District Court judge Edward Becker ordered the city to pay

**$750 to 37 demonstrators who were arrested and held for five to ten hours at the Police Administration building after their attempts to demonstrate at Independence Hall when Nixon signed the revenue-sharing bill there on October 20, 1973.

**$200 to nine demonstrators who were prevented from entering the area or had protest signs forcefully taken from them by police, but were not arrested; and

**$500 to seven persons physically assaulted or detained by police at a luncheon for Pat Nixon.

The city also agreed to pay $12,250 to the demonstrators for lawyers' fees. -30-

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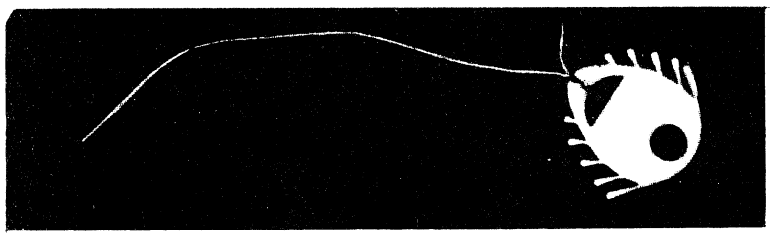

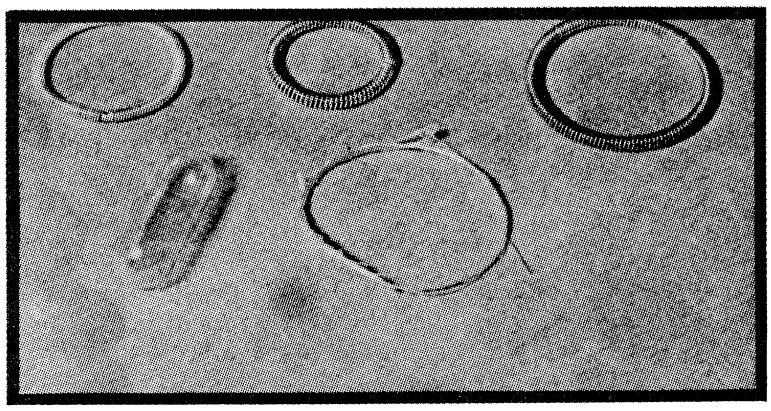

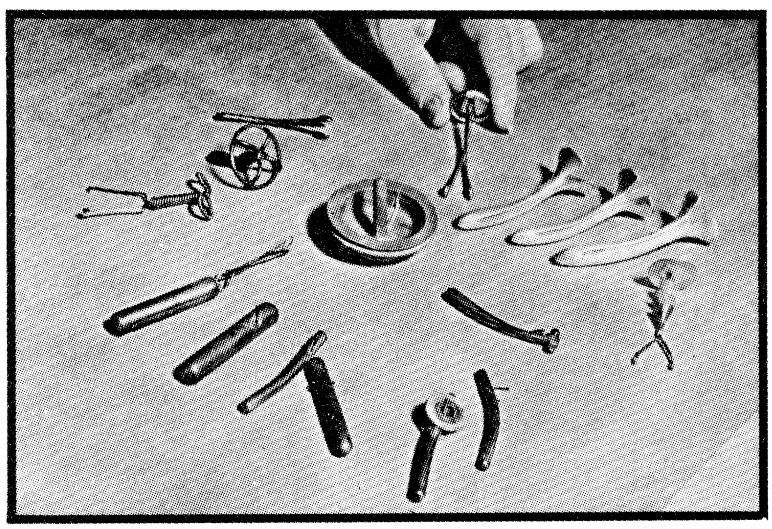

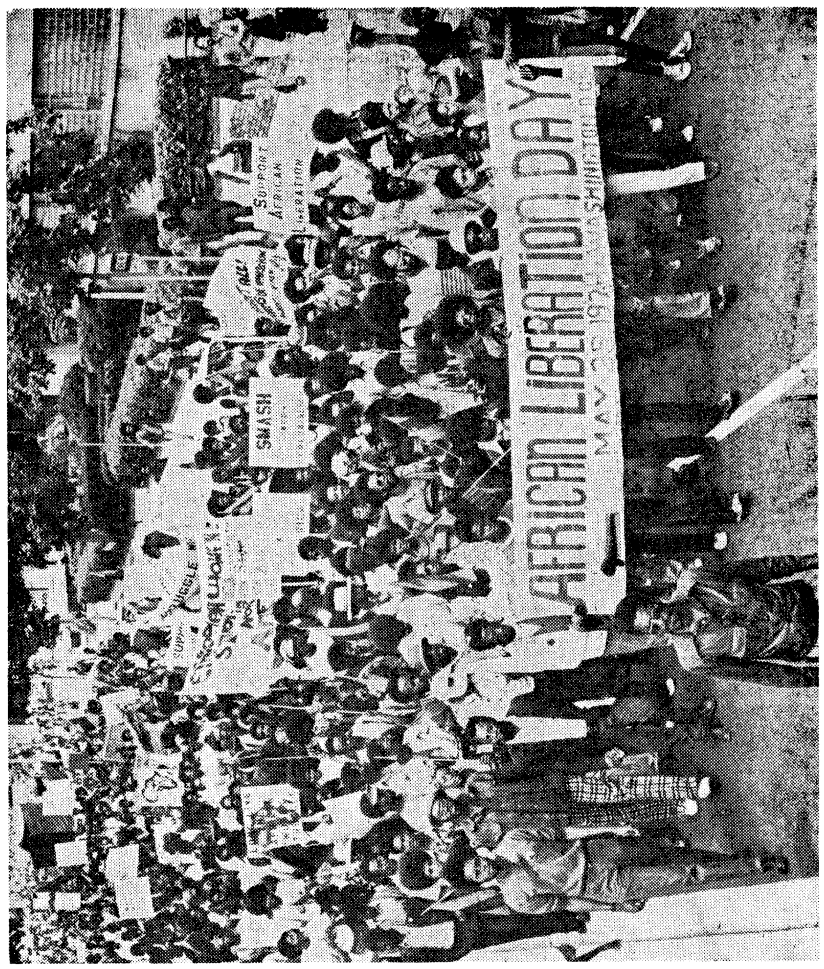

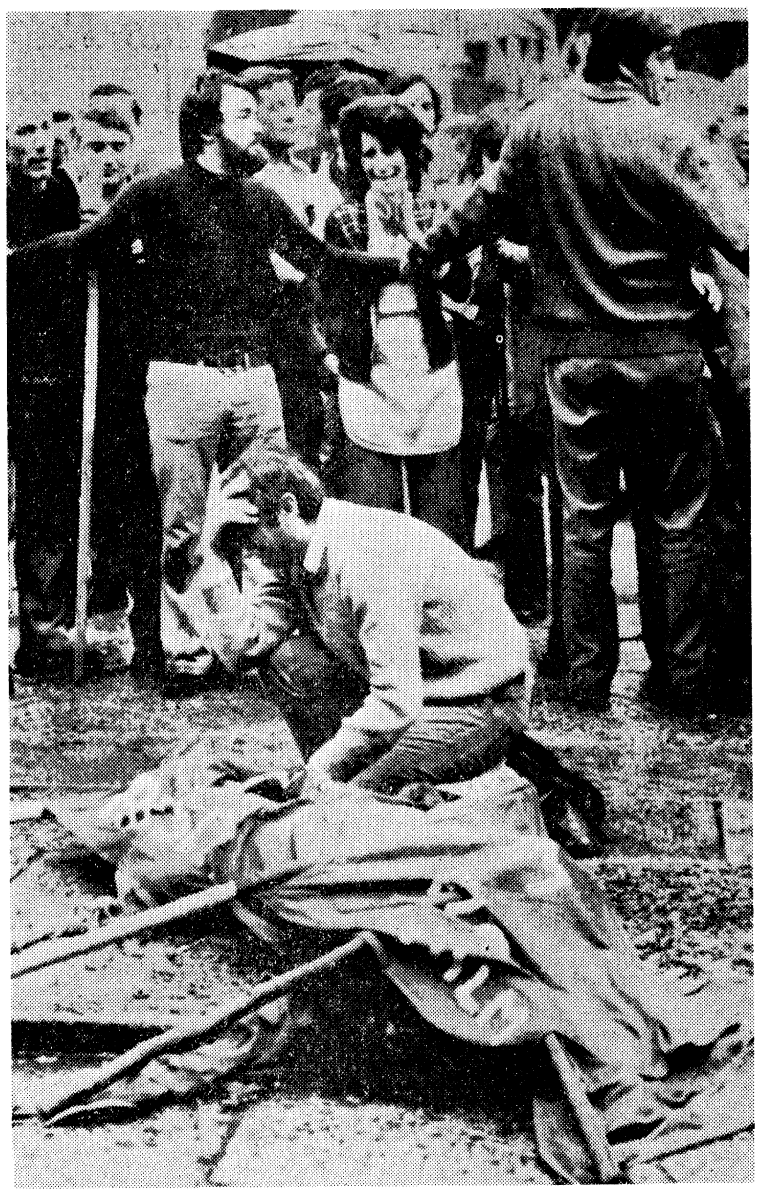

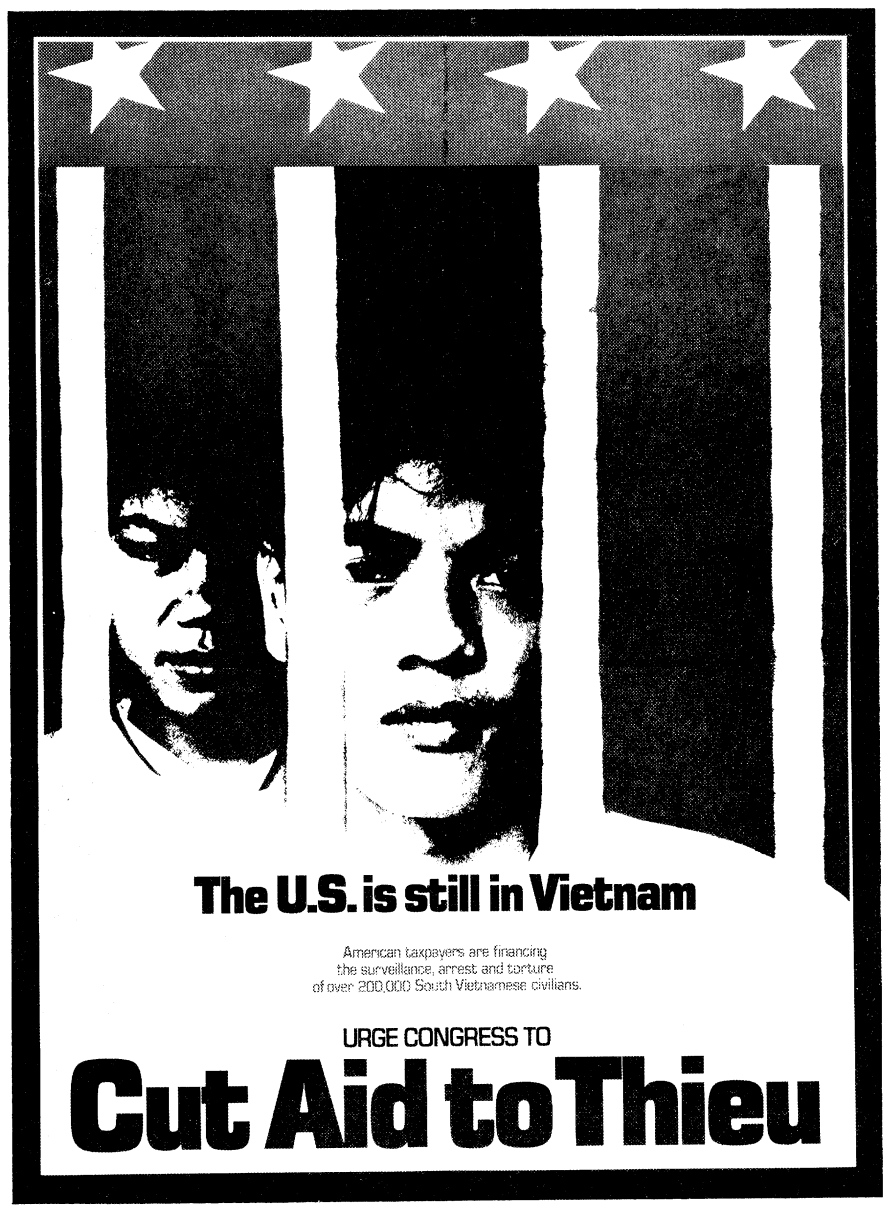

GRAPHIC CREDITS FOR THIS PAGE

You can cut these out and paste them with the graphic they refer to. See the back of this page for proper placement.

PRIME TIME/LNS	LNS
INDOCHINA PEACE CAMPAIGN/LNS	LNS
Our Bodies, Our Selves/LNS	

TOP RIGHT: The African Liberation Day march in Washington, D.C. on May 25.
SEE STORY ON PAGE 7.

TOP LEFT: A Dalkon Shield, an IUD which Planned Parenthood recently banned the use of, after a disclosure by the manufacturer that it was potentially dangerous.
SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.
CREDIT: Our Bodies, Ourselves/LNS

MIDDLE TWO LEFT: These two photos are from a Fortune magazine from 1938. They were in an article on the birth control industry. The photos were labeled as contraceptive devices, manufactured by birth control companies and used by some women, but not recommended by most doctors who thought of them as dangerous.

We can't figure out exactly what they are and which are IUDs, but they look terrible.

THIS CAN GO WITH THE STORY ON PAGE 6, BUT IT DOESN'T REALLY GO WITH THAT.
CREDIT: LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: Cover repeat. This poster is being distributed as a part of the United Campaign to End the War. It was designed by Public Interest Communications. It is available (single copies 25¢ or 20 copies for $2) from Indochina Peace Campaign, 181 Pier Ave., Santa Monica, Cal. 90405.

BOTTOM LEFT: Body of one of the victims of a bomb that exploded during an anti-fascist rally in Brescia, Italy, May 28.
GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 4.